

SAMUEL HUGGINS.

Indeed, amongst the landocracy of this country, there never was a taste for the elegant embellishments of life; their mansions in most instances were poor and unarchitectural, large but unmanring, roomy but inconvenient; the architect was rarely consulted in their erection; the uncultivated whim of the owner, the taste of the steward or agent, and the executive of the estate mason and carpenter, directed the outlay of thousands of pounds, to the perpetuation of the most absurd monstrosities of form, and of the most vicious errors in construction. I could mention the names of twenty of the gentry in one county, whose mansions would not be inhabited by a city merchant or shop-keeper, so mean, so uncomfortable, so stupid; yet they could have been as splendid as

From such procedure you cannot expect much excellence in Irish Church Architecture, and you are not disappointed; there is no variety of design, little evidence of deep thought, profound study, and patient elaboration of form and effect: travel the country from Dan to Beersheba, examine all the churches erected under the commission for the last ten years, and a more disgraceful, unchurch-like, and ill-conceived class of edifices you will not match in Christendom; you will see the one idea run through the whole of them, the same detail repeated *ad nauseam*, the same depressed roof, the same lancet window, the same Patrick's

THE CULT.

J. P. W.

MANIFOLD are the opinions afloat amongst the cognoscenti on the subject of materialism in construction, and with so much soundings, if not sound, reasoning are they asserted, that it is hard to withhold acquiescence in the theory of each successive dispiant. One says it is uncandid to portray the articulations of masonry in a plastic and sham superficial; another that it is dishonest; and a third that it is an outrage on Bath stone and Inigo Jones! whilst a fourth avers that the tracery and ornamentation are meagre and deficient of that *verve* which the accuracy of the chiselled